

REMARKS

The Office Action dated May 20, 2004 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 3-5 and 8-10 have been amended and are now in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 1, 2, 6, and 7 have been cancelled without prejudice. New claims 11-15 have been added. No new matter has been added. Claims 3-5 and 8-15 are respectfully submitted for consideration.

The Office Action objected to claim 3 due to a typographical error, in which the claim had recited “characterized in that that filtering.” The duplicate word has been removed and claim 3 has been placed in independent form. Thus, the objection is rendered moot.

Claims 4 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. More precisely, the Office Action indicated that the limitation the “the sliding window” has insufficient antecedent basis. Claims 4 and 9 have been amended to recite “a sliding window” and have also been placed in independent form. Therefore, the indefiniteness rejection is rendered moot.

Claims 1, 2, 6, and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Akerberg (U.S. Patent No. 6,553,078). The Office Action indicated, however, that claims 3, 5, 8, and 10 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if

rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 1, 2, 6, and 7 have been cancelled and claims 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, and 10 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

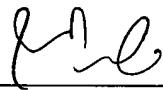
New claims 11-13 are dependent upon claims 8, 9, and 10 which are in condition for allowance. New claim 14 contains subject matter that is similar to the subject matter contained in claim 3, which was indicated as containing allowable subject matter in the Office Action. New claim 15 contains subject matter similar to that of claim 5 which was previously indicated by the Office Action as containing allowable subject matter.

Consequently, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 3-5 and 8-15 are in condition for allowance. It is therefore respectfully requested that all of claims 3-5 and 8-15 be allowed and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosure: Additional Claim Fee Transmittal